

## ON A NEW SPECIES OF HOLOSPIRA FROM TEXAS.

BY WM. H. DALL.

*Holospira pasonis* n. sp.

Shell white, mostly smooth but hardly glossy, of eleven and a half whorls; two and a half smooth, inflated, nepionic whorls, the apex flattish, followed by several whorls which are minutely ribbed in harmony with the incremental lines, the ribbing gradually becoming obsolete over most of the shell but reappearing on the last whorl, especially the basal part, sharper and somewhat crowded just behind the reflected lip; umbilicus closed or reduced to a minute chink; suture distinct, sutural edge continuing as a keel to the reflected margin of the aperture; aperture very short necked, almost circular broadly reflected; the pillar, as usual in the genus, tubular above the last whorl, the axis externally simple but somewhat flexuous. Lon. 22.5, max. diam. 6.5 mm. El Paso County, Texas, from Mule cañon at an elevation of 4000 feet. This species is nearest to *H. coahuilensis* W. G. Binney, which has one or two more whorls, the last two proportionately more attenuated with more extended, sharper and more distant sculpture, and obtusely keeled or compressed base resulting in a much more triangular and narrower aperture. It is not particularly close to any of the other species hitherto described, the *H. semi-striata* Stearns being quite distinct. A marked character is the evenly rounded basal part of the whorl just behind the lip.

The specimens were procured by a correspondent of Mr. J. A. Singley.

## MEGATEBENNUS BIMACULATUS.

BY MRS. M. F. BRADSHAW.

One day last September I found a curious and interesting mollusk. On a ledge of rocks, so high as only to be reached by the waves at the highest tides, there was a hollow containing a barrel or more of water.

Poking around in this I saw what appeared to be a bit of flesh. I took it out, thinking I had found a small *Lucapina crenulata*,

whose shell is—or appears to be—internal. But this one wore his shell upon his back for what purpose I do not know, for it was too small for protection, and the creature himself was so unpleasant to look at, no beauty of shell could redeem his ugliness.

Red-brown in color, warty, even the inadequate shell was a dull greenish-grey; not a single pretty feature!

Only an enthusiast could have taken him up with a thrill of pleasure, instead of a qualm of disgust.

Upon examination at home, it was determined to be *Fissurellidea bimaculata*; yet the shell does not quite tally with the description in West Coast Shells. Internally it is white, outside gray-green with fine sculpturing; the rays running from the aperture to the edge are strong, the circular ribs faint, and the margin is not crenulated. *F. bimaculata* is said to be  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. in length; this one is more than double that size. And the dark spots on the sides are not visible. If the green stain could be removed perhaps they would appear; but as the size is too great for *bimaculata*, perhaps I have a *Fissurella* not credited to this coast.

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#### ON COLLECTING PISIDIA.

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BY DR. V. STERKI.

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Pisidia, and for a good part Sphaeria, are by far not sufficiently known, systematically as well as geographically. Requested to do so, and encouraged by prominent conchologists, the writer is going to work them up. Already some valuable materials are at hand; thus the entire *Pisidium*-collection of Mr. E. W. Roper, numerous lots, most from Lake Michigan, sent by Mr. Bryant Walker, others from Mr. H. Prime and other conchologists, besides my own collection; and some good results have so far been attained. Yet these materials are absolutely insufficient for a thorough study and knowledge of these small mussels which, with all their minute size, are a very conspicuous and interesting part of our molluscan fauna. They should be studied in their different forms, considerably variable according to their habitats, and all kinds of waters should be searched for them all over the continent.

Whoever has collected *Corbiculidae* assiduously will know that they are, as a rule, present in large numbers, wherever found. The